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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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AF  
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the application of

**Karl L. Aschenbach**

Confirmation No. 2028

Application No. 10/693,422

**RESPONSE UNDER  
37 CFR § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE**

Filed: October 24, 2003

For: **DOWNCOMER FOR MARINE  
VESSELS**

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Examiner: Stephen P. Avila

Date: March 15, 2005

March 15, 2005  
Date  
*Linda Stuwe*  
Signature  
Linda Stuwe  
Typed Name

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

In response to the March 7, 2005 final Office action, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 4 of this paper.